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October 3, 1745:

THE Merchants, House-keepers and Substantial Inhabitants of the City and Suburbs of London, who shall approve of the following *Plan for a Military Association*, to support their King and Country against a *Popish Pretender*, are desired to meet at the *Crown-Tavern* behind the *Royal-Exchange*, this Day, at Six o'Clock in the Evening precisely, to consider of the most effectual Method for putting it speedily in Execution.

A Plan for a Military Association in the City of London, for the Defence of his Majesty King George, our Lawful Sovereign, the Preservation of the Protestant Religion, the Liberty and Property of the Nation in General, and of this City in Particular.

UNDER the present Emergency, when our Religion and Civil Liberties, are not only invaded by an open Rebellion in Favour of a Popish Pretender to the Crown of these Realms, but our ambitious Enemies abroad, elated by Success, are threatening their Concurrence to our Ruin; it is necessary for every one to exert his utmost to avert the impending Dangers; and Men of Property and superior Fortune ought not only to contribute to the Publick Safety by their Purse, but also to animate their Inferiors, who shall be employed in Defence of our King and Country, by exposing their own Persons likewise, for the Preservation of all that is dear and valuable.

It is therefore proposed,

1. That proper Persons be appointed in the several Districts of the City of London, to enroll the Names of all House-keepers and others, who shall please to enlist, as Horse or Foot Soldiers, in an Association for this Purpose.

2. That those who thus enlist, shall be formed into Troops of Horse, and Companies of Foot, who shall recommend to his Majesty for suitable Commissions the Persons they shall chuse for their Captain, Lieutenant and Ensign.

3. That as soon as these Bodies of Horse and Foot are furnished with Officers by his Majesty's Commission, they be formed into Battalions and Squadrons, consisting of such as live near each other. Each Battalion to contain not less than 600 Men, and each Squadron not less than 150.

4. That each Person enlisting, if he please, may have one or more Servants to attend him: But all such Servants must be armed and accoutred fit for Service, and formed into distinct Corps; the Servants of Horsemen into Squadrons, the others into Battalions, and both commanded by Officers chosen by, and from among their Masters.

5. That Application be made to his Majesty to appoint a General Officer of Dignity and Military Experience to be the Commander in Chief of this Associated Army of London.

6. That Application be also made to his Majesty to appoint and commission inferior Generals, and Field-Officers, out of the Captains chosen as above.

7. And that farther Application be likewise made to his Majesty, to assign a proper Field Train of Artillery, for the Use of the Associated Army.

8. That each Person enrolled shall furnish himself with Arms and Accoutrements; if a Horseman, with a good Hunter, or Road Horse, a Case of Pistols, and a Broad Sword; if a Foot Soldier, with a good Musket, Bayonet,

and Cartouch-Box; and that the Standards, Colours, Drums and Trumpets, requisite for each Body of Men, be provided at the common Expence of that Body.

9. That each Man shall also furnish his own Ammunition.

10. That every Company of Foot thus enlisted, shall first attend Three Hours every Morning, for Ten Days successively, at the Time and Place appointed by the Captain, to learn a short Exercise of the Firelock; afterwards in Battalion once every Week, and at all General Musters appointed by the Commander in Chief. The Troops of Horse shall, in like Manner, appear on Horseback at the same Time, to learn the necessary Exercise.

11. That in these Attendances no one be absent, unless he has previously obtained Leave of his Captain, or a Superior Officer.

12. That the Manual Exercises and Evolutions to be learnt by the Foot, shall be no more than what are necessary; but not with less than Four Fires at every Meeting.

13. That each Man, who enrolls himself in the present Association, shall take the Customary Oaths to the Government, in such Manner as his Majesty shall please to appoint.

14. That in Case of Alarm, or upon the Order of the General, or other chief Commander in his Absence, every Person associated and enrolled, shall meet at the appointed Rendezvous, properly armed and accoutred.

15. That each associated Soldier shall pay all due Military Obedience to his respective Officers, while under Arms, and be subject to march at Command to any Place, where the Service may require, not exceeding Twenty Miles from London; but no farther without their own Consent.

16. That this Association continue in Force till the present Rebellion shall be suppressed, and no longer.

We whose Names are underwritten do freely and heartily enter into this Military Association, promising to observe punctually all the Articles above-stated, and to exert our utmost Endeavours in Defence of his Majesty King George, and his Royal Family, and for the Preservation of the Protestant Religion, the Laws and Constitution of the Realm, the Rights, Liberties, and Privileges of the Nation in General, and of this City in Particular.